

Region X Energy Hints 2013

Hot Weather and Air Conditioning

Owner Tips: Week 5

Tip 1



Increase your air conditioner temperature by one degree. Believe it or not, it could mean significant savings over the long run.

Tip 2

When it's cool outside, open the windows and turn off the air.



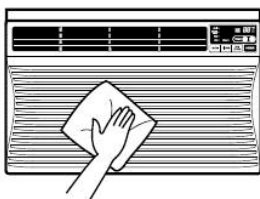
Tip 3

Before buying an air conditioning unit or system, find out its energy-efficiency ratio (EER). Calculate the EER by dividing the unit's cooling capacity (BTUs/hour) by its energy requirement (watts). An EER of 10 or more is very good, and 6 or 7 is fair. Remember to buy the smallest capacity unit or system that will meet your needs.

$$\text{ENERGY EFFICIENCY RATIO (EER)} = \frac{\text{Cooling power (BTU/hour)}}{\text{Electric input (watts)}}$$

Tip 4

Replace or clean air filters every month. Clogged filters mean your A/C works harder.



Tip 5

Install a programmable thermostat if you don't have one already. Set the times and temperatures to match your schedule.



Tip 6

Set ceiling fans to run clockwise to provide better air circulation. Turn off ceiling fans when leaving the room.



Tip 7

Plant deciduous trees which will have full foliage in summer providing shade and sun-protection for your windows.

